

The Mississippi House
JoDaviess County,
Galena, Illinois

HABS Ill. 152

HABS
ILL,
43. GALA,
13.

Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings
PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District No. Ill.I.

Historic American Buildings Survey
Earl H. Reed, District Officer
435 North Michigan Ave., Chicago

THE MISSISSIPPI HOUSE
JO DAVIESS COUNTY
GALENA, ILLINOIS

HABS
ILL,
43-GALA,

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DISTRICT NO. ILL.1.
NORTHERN ILLINOIS

EARL H. REED
DISTRICT OFFICER

Project No. Ill. 152

Richard J. Wall.

SOURCE

Very little of the early history of this building could be obtained. It appears to have been built about 1850.

Mr. Ado Genz
Son of present
owner.

A fire in 1895 caused considerable damage to the upper portion of the building. As the town was on a decline the top story was omitted in rebuilding after the fire. The interior has been remodeled somewhat, especially in the first story, which now is occupied as a residence by the family of the son of the owner. The rest of the building is unused.

Chamber maid
of early days.

Originally the first story contained the bar-room, office, large dining room and kitchen. The bar-room was at the left as you entered with stairway and kitchen beyond. At the right was the office with the dining room extending to the rear wall. Upper stories contained guests bed rooms, while the basement housed a laundry and helps quarters. The stairway at the first story has been changed from its original location at the center of the north wall to a position just inside of the entrance door.

One of the interesting phases of this building is to be found in the social condition it reflects. As only the front and rear rooms had windows, intermediate rooms were ventilated by means of hinged sash near the ceiling which opened into the adjoining rooms. Rooms rented for ten cents a night. There was a large barn in the rear to accommodate horses.

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43 GALA

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The entire basement which now appears to be an impossible place for sleeping quarters, with its slimy floor and penetrating dampness, had for ventilation three small windows at the front wall below the sidewalk level, and a door and full size window at the rear wall.

The present owner is Mrs. Catherine Genz.

By Richard Wall

Approved

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